Monday the 6. of June. 1642. *P. Merid.*

THe Lords and Commons observing not only the *wisedome*, but the *affections* of the *County* of *Yorke* expressed in these *Petitions*, and likewise that they cannot bee discouraged from their constant *fidelity* to the *Lawes* and *Government* of this *Kingdome*, which have their *Life* and being from the *Parliament*, have thought it fit to *declare* their good acceptations of their affections, assuring them that they will *interest* themselves in this Their Demaunds, which tends to the *honour* and *safety* of his Majesty, the peace of his Kingdome, and may prove an effectuall meanes to keepe us from the desperate mischiefes those *Lords* that opposed this *Petition* would have brought this Kingdome into.

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FINIS.

The humble PETITION OF The Lords and Commons Assembled in Parliament.

Presented to his Majestie at York, the seventeenth of June, 1642.

With His Majesties Answer thereunto.

Reprinted at *Oxford* by His MAIESTIES COMMAND.

By LEONARD LICHFIELD, *Printer to the Vniversity*. 1642.

PETITION

TO THE KINGS MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTIE.

The humble Petition of the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled.

YOur Majesties most humble and faithfull Subjects, the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, have lately received a Petition from a great number of the Gentry, Freeholders, & other Inhabitants of the County of York, assembled thereby your Majesties Command, the third of June; wherein they declare unto Us, That having taken a Resolution to addresse themselves unto your Majestie, in the humble way of a Petition for the redresse of those

Grievances which they now lie under, they were violently interrupted & affronted therein by the Earle of Lynsey, the Lord Savile, and others; and, notwithstanding all the means they could use to present their just desires to your Majestie, yet they could not prevail with your Majestie to accept of their Petition, the Copie whereof they have sent to us, with an humble desire, That we would take such course therein, as may tend to the preservation of their Liberties, and the Peace of the Kingdom; and that we would addresse our selves to your Majestie in their behalf, that by our means their desires may finde better acceptation with your Majestie. Whereupon, having seriously weighed and considered the particulars of those their complaints and desires, as they are laid down in their Petition, and finding that the Grievances they complain of, are the increase of the miseries formerly sustained by that County (which hath wel-nigh, for three yeares last past, been the tragicall Stage of Armies and War) by reason of your Majesties distance in Residence, and difference in Counsels from your great Councell, the Parliament, begetting great distempers and distractions thorowout the Kingdom, and especially in that County; The drawing to those parts great numbers of discontented persons, that may too justly be feared, do affect the pub-

like

like ruine for their private advantage; The drawing together of many Companies of the Trained Bands, & others, both Horſe & Foot of that County, & retaining multitudes of Commanders & Cavaliers, from other parts; The dayly reſort of Recuſants to your Majeſties Court at York; *The great preparations of Arms, and other warlike Proviſions, to the great terrour and amazement of your Majeſties peaceable Subjects, & cauſing a great decay of Trade & Commerce amongſt them; All and every of which particulars are againſt the Law, which your Majeſtie hath made ſo many, and ſo frequent profeſſions to uphold and maintain: And the Lords and Commons finding, on the other ſide, their humble deſires to be, That your Majeſtie would hearken to your Parliament, and declining all other Counſels whatſoever, unite your Confidence to your Parliament; And that your Majeſtie would not divide your Subjects joynt-duty to your Majeſtie, the Parliament and Kingdom, nor deſtroy the eſſence of your great Councell and higheſt Court, by ſubjecting the Determinations and Counſels thereof to the counſels and opinions of any private perſons whatſoever; That your Majeſtie having paſſed an Act, That this Parliament ſhall not be diſſolved but by Act of Parliament, your Majeſtie would not do*

anything tending thereunto, by commanding away the Lords and great-Officers, whose attendance is necessary thereunto; That your Majestie having expressed your confidence in the Affections of that County, you would please to dismisse your extraordinary Guards, and the Cavaliers, and others of that quality, who seem to have litle interest or affection to the publike good, their language and behaviour speaking nothing but division and war, and their advantage consisting in that which is most distructive to others: And lastly, That in such Consultations and Propositions as your Majestie maketh to that County, such may not be thrust upon them, as Men of that County, that neither by their Fortune or Residence are any part of it. All which their humble and most just desires, being according to Law, which your Majestie hath so often declared, should be the Measure and Rule of your Government and Actions. And we, your Majesties most faithfull Subjects the Lords and Commons fully concurring with the Gentlemen and others of the County of York, in their Assurance that those desires of theirs will abundantly redound to the Glory of God, the honour and safety of your Majestie, the good of your Posterity, and the Peace and prosperity of this Kingdom.

We humbly beseech your Majestie graciously to hearken

hearken unto them, and to grant them; And that you would joyne with your Parliament in a speedy and effectuall course for the preservation of their Liberties, and the Peace of the Kingdom; which duty, as we are now called upon by that County to discharge, so doe we stand engaged to God and Man for the performance thereof, by the Trust reposed in us, and by our solemne Vow and Protestation. And your Majestie, together with us, stands engaged by the like Obligation of Trust, and of an Oath, besides the many and earnest Professions and Protestations, which your Majestie hath made to this purpose to your whole Kingdom in generall, and to that County in particular, the Peace and quiet of the Kingdom, (as is well observed by those Gentlemen, and Freeholders of York-shire, *in their Petition) being the onely visible means, under God, wherein consists the Preservation of the Protestant Religion, the Redemption of our Brethren in* Ireland, *and the happinesse and prosperitie of your Majestie, and of all your Dominions.*

His

¶ His Maiesties Answer to the aforesaid Petition.

His Majestie having carefully weighed the matter of this Petition, presented to him at *York*, on Friday the seventeenth of Iune, by the Lord *Howard*, Sir *Hugh Cholmeley*, and Sir *Philip Stapleton*, though he might refer the Petitioners to his two last Declarations, wherein most of the particulars in this Petition are fully answered, or might refuse to give any Answer at all, till He had received satisfaction in those high Indignities He hath so often complained of, and demanded Iustice for: Yet, that all the world may see how desirous His Majestie is to leave no Act, which seems to carry the Reputation of both His Houses

of Parliament, and in the leaſt degree to reflect upon His Majeſties Juſtice and Honour unanſwered, is graciouſly pleaſed to return this Anſwer:

THat if the Petition mentioned to be preſented to both Houſes of Parliament, had been annexed to this now delivered to Him, His Majeſtie might have diſcerned the number and the qualitie of the Petitioners, which His Majeſtie hath great reaſon to beleeve, was not in truth ſo conſiderable as is pretended; for His Majeſtie aſſures you, That He hath never refuſed any Petition ſo atteſted as that would be thought to be. But His Majeſtie well remembers, That on the third of June, when there was, upon His Majeſties Summons, the greateſt and the moſt cheerfull concourſe of people that ever was beheld of one County, appearing before Him at *York*, a Gentleman (one Sir *Thomas Faurefax*) offered, in that great Confluence, a Petition to His Majeſtie, which His Majeſtie ſeeing to be avowed by no man but himſelf, & the generall and univerſall Acclamations of the people ſeeming to diſclaim it, did not receive, con-

conceiving it not to be of ſo publike a nature as to be fit to be preſented or received in that place: And His Majeſtie is moſt confident (and in that muſt appeal to thoſe who were then preſent) that what ever the ſubſtance of that Petition was, it was not conſented to by any conſiderable number of Gentrie or Free-holders of this Countie; but ſolicited by a few, mean, inconſiderable perſons, and diſliked and viſibly diſcountenanced by the great body of the known Gentry, Clergie, and Inhabitants of this whole Countie. And if the matter of that Petition were ſuch as is ſuggeſted in this, His Majeſtie hath great reaſon to beleeve it was framed and contrived (as many others of ſuch nature have been) in *London*, not in *Yorkſhire*. For ſure no Gentleman of quality and underſtanding, of this County, would talk of His great preparations of Arms, and other warlike Proviſions, to the great terrour and amazement of His peaceable Subjects, when they are witneſſes of the violent taking His Arms from Him, and ſtopping all wayes for bringing more to Him; And if there were no greater terrour and amazement of His Majeſties peaceable Subjects in other places by ſuch preparations and proviſions, there

would be no more cauſe to complain of a great decay of Trade and Commerce there, then is in this place: But *His* Majeſtie hath ſo great an aſſurance of the fidelitie and generall affections of *His* good Subjects of this Countie (which *He* hopes will prove exemplar over *His* whole Kingdom) that *He* hath great cauſe to beleeve, That they do rather complain of *His* Majeſties confidence, and of *His* ſlowneſſe, that whilſt there is ſuch endeavour abroad to raiſe Horſe, and to provide Arms againſt His Majeſtie, and that endeavour put in execution, His Majeſtie truſts ſo much to the Iuſtice of His cauſe, and the affections of his people, and neglects to provide ſtrength to aſsiſt that Iuſtice, & to protect thoſe affections. For any affronts offered by the Earle of *Lindſey* and the Lord *Savile*, to thoſe who intended to Petition His Majeſtie, His Majeſtie wiſhes that both His Houſes of Parliament would have examined that Information, and the credit of the Informers, with that gravity and deliberation, as in caſes which concern the Innocence and Honour of perſons of ſuch quality hath been accuſtomed, before they had proſcribed two Peers of the Realm, and expoſed them (as much as in them lay)

lay) to the rage and fury of the people, under the Character of being Enemies to the Common-wealth, a brand newly found out (and of no legall ſignification) to incenſe the people by, and with which the ſimplicity of former times was not acquainted: And then His Majeſtie hath ſome reaſon to beleeve they would have found themſelves as much abuſed in the report concerning thoſe Lords, as he is ſure they are in thoſe which tell them of the reſort of great numbers of diſcontented perſons to him, and of the other particulars, mentioned to be in that Petition: Whereas, they who obſerve what reſort is here to His Majeſtie, well know it to be of the prime Gentlemen of all the Counties in *England*, whom nothing but the love of Religion, the care of the Laws and Liberties of the Kingdom, beſides their affection to *His* Perſon, could engage into great journeys, trouble, and expence, men of as precious reputation, and as exemplary lives as this Nation hath any; whoſe aſſiſtance His Majeſtie knows *He* muſt not expect, if *He* ſhould have the leaſt deſigne againſt *Honour* & Juſtice; and ſuch witneſſes *His* Majeſtie deſires to have of all *His* actions.

For the declining all other Councels, and the

uniting His Confidence to *His* Parliament, HIS Majeſtie deſires both *His Houſes* of Parliament ſeriouſly and ſadly to conſider, That it is not the name of a great or little Councell that makes the Reſults of that Councell Juſt or Unjuſt, neither can the Imputation upon HIS Majeſtie, of not being adviſed by HIS Parliament, (eſpecially ſince all their Actions, and all their Orders are expoſed to the publike view) long miſ-lead HIS good Subjects, except in truth they ſee ſome particular ſound Advice, neceſſary to the Peace and Happineſſe of the Common-wealth, diſeſteemed by HIS Majeſtie; and ſuch an Inſtance HE is moſt aſſured, neither can, nor ſhall be given: And that they will think it merit in HIS Majeſtie, from the Common-wealth, to reject ſuch Counſell as would perſwade HIM to make HIMſelf none of the Three Eſtates, by giving up HIS negative voyce, to allow them a Power ſuperiour to that which the Law hath given HIM, whenſoever it pleaſeth the Major part, preſent, of both Houſes, to ſay, That HE doth not diſcharge HIS Truſt, as HE ought, and to ſubject HIS, and HIS Subjects unqueſtionable Right and Proprietie to their Votes, without, and againſt Law, upon the meer pretence of neceſsitie.

ceſſitie. And *His* Majeſtie muſt appeal to all the world, who it is that endeavours to divide the joynt duty of *His* Subjects; *His* Majeſtie, who requires nothing but what their own duty, guided by the infallible Rule of the Law, leades them to do; or they who, by Orders and Votes (oppoſite and contradictory to Law, Cuſtom, Preſident, and Reaſon) ſo confound the Affections and Underſtandings of *His* good Subjects, that they know not how to behave themſelves with honeſty and Safety, whileſt their Conſcience will not ſuffer them to ſubmit to the one, nor their Securitie to apply themſelves to the other.

It is not the bare ſaying, That *His* Majeſties Actions are againſt the Law (with which *He* is reproached in this Petition, as if *He* departed from *His* often Proteſtations to that purpoſe) muſt conclude HIM, there being no one ſuch particular in that Petitiõ alleadged, of which his Majeſtie is in the leaſt degree guilty: Whether the ſame reverence & eſteem be paid by you to the Law, (except your own Votes be judge) needs no other evidence then thoſe many, very many Orders publiſhed in print, both concerning the Church & State, thoſe long impriſonments

ments of ſeverall perſons, without hearing them, upon generall information, and the great unlimited Fees to your Officers, worſe then the impriſonment, and the Arbitrary Cenſure upon them when they are admitted to be heard; let the Law be judge by whom it is violated.

For that part of the Petition which ſeems to accuſe His Majeſtie of a purpoſe to diſſolve this Parliament (contrary to the Act for the Continuance) by commanding away the Lords and great Officers, whoſe attendance is neceſſary, which His Majeſtie well knows to be a new Calumnie, by which the grand Contrivers of ruine for the State, hope to leduce the minds of the People from their Affection to, or into Jealouſie of his Majeſtie, as if He meant this way to bring this Parliament (which may be the caſe of all Parliaments) to nothing: It is not poſſible for His Majeſtie more to expreſſe his Affection to, and his Reſolution for the Freedom, Libertie, and frequencie of Parliaments, then He hath done: And who ever conſiders how viſible it muſt be to His Majeſtie, That it is impoſſible for *Him* to ſubſiſt without the Affections of *His* people, and that thoſe Affections cannot poſsibly be preſerved, or made uſe of, but by

Parlia-

Parliaments, cannot give the leaſt credit, or have the leaſt ſuſpition, that his Majeſtie would chuſe any other way to the happineſſe He deſires for Himſelf and His Poſteritie, but by Parliaments.

But for *His* calling the Lords hither, or any others abſenting themſelves, who have not been called; who ever conſiders the Tumults (which no Votes or Declaration can make to be no Tumults) by which his Majeſtie was driven away, and many Members of either *Houſe* in danger of their lives; The demanding the names of thoſe Lords who would not conſent to their Propoſitions by Meſſage from the Houſe of Commons, delivered at the Bar by Maſter *Hollis*, with that moſt tumultuous Petition in the name of many thouſands (among many other of the ſame kinde) directed to the Houſe of Commons, & ſent up by them to the Houſe of Lords, taking notice of the prevalencie of a Malignant faction which made abortive all their good Motions, which tended to the Peace and Tranquillitie of the Kingdom, deſiring, that thoſe noble Worthies of the Houſe of Peers, who concurred with them in their happy Votes, might be earneſtly deſired to joyn with

 that

that honourable Houſe, and to ſit and Vote as one entire Body; profeſsing, That unleſſe ſome ſpeedy remedie were taken for the removall of all ſuch Obſtructions as hindred the happy progreſſe of their great endeavours, their Petitioners ſhould not reſt in quietneſſe, but ſhould be inforced to lay hold on the next remedy which was at hand to remove the diſturbers of their Peace, and (want and neceſsitie breaking the bounds of modeſtie) not to leave any means unaſſayed for their relief; Adding, that the cry of the poor and needy was, That ſuch perſons who were the Obſtacles of their peace, and hinderers of the happy proceedings of this Parliament, might be forthwith publikely declared, whoſe removall, they cõceived, would put a period to theſe diſtractions. Upon which, a great number of Lords departing, the Vote, in order to the Ordinance concerning the *Militia*, was immediatly paſſed, though it had been twice before put to the queſtion and rejected by the Votes of much the major part of that Houſe. And who ever conſiders the ſtrange Orders, Votes and Declarations which have ſince paſſed, to which whoſoever would not conſent, that is, with freedom and libertie of Language

guage profeſſe againſt, was in danger of cenſure and impriſonment, will not blame Our care in ſending for them, or theirs in comming, or abſenting themſelves from being involved in ſuch Concluſions. Neither will it be any objection that they ſtayed there long after any tumults were, and therefore that the tumults drave them not away. If every day produced Orders and Reſolutions as illegall as, and indeed, but the effects of the tumults, there was no cauſe to doubt the ſame power would be ready to prevent any oppoſition to thoſe Orders after they were made, which had made way and preparation for the propoſition of them, and ſo whoſoever conceived himſelfe in danger of future tumults (againſt which there is not the leaſt proviſion) was driven away by thoſe which were paſt. And his Majeſtie hath more reaſon to wonder at thoſe who ſtay behinde, after all His legall Power is voted from him, and all the people told, That He might be with modeſty and duty enough depoſed, then any man hath at thoſe who have been willing to withdraw themſelves from the place where ſuch deſperate and dangerous Poſitions are avowed. Which his Majeſtie doth not mention, with the leaſt

thought of leſſenning the power or validity of any Act to which He hath given his Aſſent this Parliament, all and every of which He ſhall as inviolably obſerve, as He looks to have his own Rights preſerved, but to ſhew by what means ſo many ſtrange Orders have of late been made; and to ſhew how earneſtly his Majeſtie deſires to be preſent at, and receive advice from both Houſes of Parliament, (againſt whom it ſhall never be in the power of a Malignant party to incenſe his Majeſtie) his Majeſtie again offers his Conſent, That both houſes may be adjourned to another place which may be thought convenient, where his Majeſtie will be preſent, & doubts not but the Members of either Houſe will make a full Appearance, and even the intermiſſion which muſt attend ſuch an adjournment, may not be the leaſt means of recovering that temper which is neceſſary for ſuch debates.

And this his Majeſtie conceives to be ſo very neceſſary, that if the Mindes and Inclinations of every Member of either Houſe were equally compoſed, the Licence is ſo great, that the mean People about *London* and the Suburbs have taken, that both for the Libertie and Dig-

nity

nity of Parliament, that Convention for a time ſhould be in another place. And ſure, how much ſoever the ſafety and ſecurity of this Kingdom depends on Parliaments, it will never be thought, that thoſe Parliaments muſt of neceſsitie be at *Weſtminſter*.

His Majeſties Confidence is no leſſe then HE hath expreſſed, (and hath great Cauſe to expreſſe) in the Affections of this County, an inſtance of which Affections all men know, His Guard (which is not extraordinary) to be, and wonders that ſuch a Legall Guard, at HIS own charge, for His Perſon, (within twenty Miles of a Rebellion, and of an Army in Pay againſt Him) ſhould be objected by thoſe, who for ſo many Moneths, and in a Place of known, and confeſſed Security, have without and againſt Law, kept a guard for themſelves, at the Charge of the Common-wealth, and upon that ſtock of money which was given for the Relief of the miſerable and bleeding Condition of *Ireland*, or the payment of the great debt due to Our Kingdom of *Scotland*.

For the Reſort of Papiſts to the Court, his Majeſties great Care for the prevention thereof, is notoriouſly known; That when he was in-

formed two or three of *His* intended Guard were of that Religion, He gave ſpeciall direction, with expreſsions of *His* diſpleaſure, That they ſhould be immediatly diſcharged, and provided that no Perſon ſhould attend on *Him* under that Relation, but ſuch as took the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy; That He commanded the Sheriffe to proceed with all ſeveritie, according to the Law, againſt all Papiſts that ſhould come within five Miles of the Court; & if, notwithſtanding this, there be any Papiſts neer the Court, (which his Majeſtie aſſures you He knows not, nor hath heard, but by this Petition) He doth hereby command them to depart; and declares to all Officers, and Miniſters of Juſtice, that they ſhall proceed ſtrictly againſt them, according to the Law, and as they will anſwer the contrary at their perils.

For the language and behaviour of the Cavaliers (a word, by what miſtake ſoever it ſeems, much in diſfavour) there hath not been the leaſt Complaint here; and therefore 'tis probable the fault was not found in this Countie. Neither can his Majeſtie imagine what is meant by the mention of any men thruſt upon them, in ſuch Conſultations and Propoſitions

as his Majeſtie makes to this County, who are neither by their Fortune or Reſidence, any part of it; and therefore can make no Anſwer to it.

To conclude, his Majeſtie aſſures you, He hath never refuſed to receive any Petition, (whether you have or no, your ſelves beſt know) and will conſider what reputation it will be to you of Juſtice or Ingenuitie to receive all Petitions, how ſenſleſſe and ſcandalous ſoever, of one kind, under the pretence of underſtanding the good peoples minds and affections, and not onely refuſe the Petition, but puniſh the Petitioners of another kind, under colour, That it is a Crime, That they are not ſatisfied with your ſenſe; as if you were onely truſted by the people of one opinion, to take all pains to publiſh and print Petitions which agree with your wiſhes, though they were never preſented, and to uſe the ſame Induſtry and Authority to keep thoſe that indeed were preſented and avowed from being publiſhed (though by Our own Authority) becauſe the Argument is not pleaſant to you, to pretend impartiality and infallibility, and to expreſſe the greateſt Paſſion and Affection in the Order of your Proceeding, and no leſſe errour and miſ-underſtanding in

your

your Judgements and Reſolutions.

He doth remember well the Obligation of his Truſt, and of his Oath, and deſires that you will do ſo too, and your own ſolemn Vow and Proteſtation, and then you will not onely think it convenient, but neceſſary to give his Majeſtie a full reparation for all the Scandals laid upon him, and all the ſcandalous Poſitions made againſt him; and that it is leſſe diſhonour to retract Errors, then by avowing, to confeſſe the Malice of them, and will ſee this to be the ſureſt way for the preſervation of the Proteſtant Religion, the redemption of your Brethren in *Ireland*, the happineſſe and proſperity of your ſelves, and all Our Dominions, and of the dignitie & freedom of Parliament.

FINIS.

22 JULII 4. 1642.

THE DECLARATION OF THE LORDS AND COMMONS Assembled in PARLIAMENT.

OR,

Five severall passages of State, viz.

1. *His MAIESTIES Commission of Array.*
2. *His Proclamation upon the same.*
3. *His Majesties Letter to the County of* Leycester.
4. *The Declaration of both Houses of Parliament concerning the said Commission of Array and His Majesties Proclamation.*

Lastly, diuers Acts and Statutes thereunto annexed.

Whereby it appeares that the said Commission is not warranted by any Act of Parliament: That it is contrary to the Lawes and Customes of the Realme, destructive to the Liberty and Property of the Subject, contrary to the Petition of Right, and the Statute made this present Parliament.

Veneris 1. *Julii.* 1642.

ORdered by the Lords in Parliament, That these five severall particulars shall be forthwith Printed and published,

Io. Brown Cleric. Parlamentorum.

LONDON,
Printed for *Ioseph Hunscot* and *John Wright*. 1642.